



**COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO**

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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

July 20, 2011

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **SB 776 (DeSaulnier)** – As amended on June 15, 2011 – **OPPOSE**

Dear Senator DeSaulnier:

The County of San Bernardino has reviewed SB 776 as amended, and regretfully we remain opposed. We greatly appreciate the time you, your staff and supporters of SB 776 have taken to mitigate our concerns. However, we feel that this bill usurps the authority of local workforce investment boards to set policy within their local areas.

The current downturn in the economy has, more than ever, increased the need for employment services to operate under the guidance of Local Workforce Investment Board (LWIB) to fuel the current economic recovery, rapidly respond to business that are downsizing and service employees who are laid off. It is imperative that LWIB have the resources to put people back to work quickly and prepare communities for future growth. SB 776 would impede our LWIB's ability to effectively delivery services that meet the unique demand of our region.

As indicated in our previous letter, decisions on how and where resources are best deployed are issues that should not be legislated. These issues should be taken up by the California Workforce Investment Board with local input. Prescribing a certain threshold of funding to be applied to workforce training will not permit local workforce investment board members to make decisions that recognize and reflect local needs.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino opposes SB 776. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs, at (909) 387-4280.

Sincerely,

JOSIE GONZALES
Chair, Board of Supervisors